JESSIE RIDGELEY AND MRS. HOWARD DOYLE

White Oaks, NM.

Camden (NJ) Daily Courier 7 April 1891

The absence of moral condemnation usually found in news articles of the time is noteworthy. One woman was identified as being the *wife of Howard Doyle* rather than her own name.

DOUBLE SUICIDE. The Romantic Tangedy Enacted by Two Women in New Mexico. [SY UNITED PRESS.] SANTA FE, N. M., April 7 .- Details of an Easter Sunday tragedy at White Oaks, N. M., reached here yesterday, the affair being a double suicide, in which two young women, formerly of Liberty, Mo., were the principals. The names of the women are Mrs. Howard Doyle and Miss Jessie Ridgeley. Mrs. Doyle had been separated from her husband for some time and had made a confident of Miss Ridgeley. It is thought that Mrs. Doyle was despondent and had prevailed upon Miss Ridgeley to commit suicide at the same time. The bodies of the women were found in a lonely part of the town, and over the heart of each was a bullet hole. They were clasped in each others arms and between them was a revolver, which usually had a place on the mantel in Miss Ridgeley's bedroom. Their hats hung on a post near by; their cloaks had been neatly folded and served as head-rests, and to each cloak was pinned notes to various friends. One letter expressed the desire that they be buried in the same grave. None of the letters gave the reason for the rash act.

Source: Ancestry via Peter Jeuck (FB)